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NOVEMBER 2021 | VOLUME 12 | ISSUE 11

YOUR DONATION BENEFITS THE VENDORS.
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Un-paving the parking lot — what's
the status on the Library Lot saga?
Page 5



MEET YOUR
VENDOR:
KEN PARKS,
PAGE 3

GROUND COVER

NEWS AND SOLUTIONS FROM THE GROUND UP | WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICH.

THRIVING PEOPLES • THRIVING PLACES

Marjorie Kunaq Tahbone • Iñupiaq & Kiowa • Sitnasuaġmiut



Page 12



THRIVING PEOPLES • THRIVING PLACES

Twa-le Abrahamson-Swan & Deb Abrahamson • Spokane

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@groundcovernews, include vendor name and vendor #

I transitioned to civilian life but many vets still struggle

ALEXA CULBERT
Groundcover contributor

I am a veteran. A label only eight percent of the American population can claim. Like many before me, I enlisted into the military when I was eighteen years old, and I went on to serve a total of seven years on active duty. The military set my life on a completely different trajectory, and I am forever grateful for everything the service has given me. I am truly a better version of myself for having the experiences I did while serving, but I would be lying if I said my years in the military didn't take a toll on me.

Sometime during my enlistment I developed an anxiety disorder which was often mistaken as a "Type-A" personality. I kept my mind busy by pouring myself into my work and I received counseling from my local mental health clinic. I was able to continue serving but when my enlistment term came to an end, I decided it was time to explore other avenues.

I was aware of the fact that suicide and homelessness rates are high among veterans, but I never thought I would be at risk for either. I had a solid plan: I was going to separate, go home, go to school. Easy and straightforward. However, I underestimated how taxing the transition from military to civilian life can be.

I sorely missed the camaraderie and sense of purpose I had while in the military. Despite having all of my family around for the first time in years, I was the loneliest I had ever been and with nothing to keep my mind busy, my anxiety worsened and soon developed into depression. I struggled with this feeling for nine months, but somehow, I mustered the energy and drive to apply to a university and become a full-time student.

I'm out in the world again and have found another version of the camaraderie and purpose that I was searching for. I was lucky. Despite feeling like I was alone, I wasn't. I had a well-established support system of many friends and family. Sadly, this isn't the case for all of our veterans. The number of veterans among the general population is relatively low, but it is high among the homeless community. As of this year, veterans make up 17% of the homeless demographic in the United States.

In January 2020, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development reported that 580,466 people were affected by homelessness and 37,252 of them were veterans. In that same month, it was reported that 639 veterans were left unsheltered in the state of Michigan alone and the Housing and Urban Development 2019 Continuum of Care report accounted for 19 homeless veterans living in Washtenaw County, right here in our community.

But how can an entire group of people who are so honored in our nation be so overlooked? Well, there are a few risk factors that veterans are susceptible to. According to Greendoors.org, 50% of homeless veterans are struggling with mental illness and roughly 67% with substance abuse, and in some cases both. Also, many separate from the military and find themselves isolated without any kind of support network. The combination of these factors can create a difficult circumstance and inability to stay afloat, let alone make the difficult transition from military to civilian life.

Hal Klenk, Groundcover vendor and veteran, who first served as an Air Force medical technologist from 1964 through 1968, and then another four and half years in the Army, shared his thoughts on why he thinks veterans struggle to adjust outside of the military. "I think that for the most part, at

least from my experience, there is not enough discussion about PTSD when [veterans] leave," he said. "There should be someone to point resources out to them because it's not that they're not out there, they just need someone to point them in the right direction... People don't want to talk about it, so you have to reach out and help them see that they need help."

As Veterans Day approaches, honor our fallen heroes, but also look toward the ones that made it home. They didn't pay the ultimate price, but they are paying — whether it's their mental health, substance abuse, isolation or just missed time with family — and they need our attention. But there is hope.

According to the United States Inter-agency Council on Homelessness, there are three states and 82 communities that have successfully put an end to veteran homelessness. Their website

states the criteria to be considered free of veteran homelessness are:

1. All veterans facing homelessness have been identified
2. Shelter has been provided to homeless veterans
3. Temporary housing is offered until permanent housing is available
4. The community has the capability to quickly provide housing to veterans in need
5. There are resources and plans ready to address veteran homelessness in the future

Veterans in need of assistance can call or visit their local VA Medical Center or the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at (877) 4AID-VET (877-424-3838). The Washtenaw Veterans Affairs office can be reached at 734-973-4540.



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GROUNDCOVER

Mission

Creating opportunity and a voice for low-income people while taking action to end homelessness and poverty.

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Catherine Nouhan — editor

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MEET YOUR VENDOR



Ken Parks, vendor No. 490

In one sentence, who are you?
Son of the Earth.

Where do you usually sell Groundcover News? Anywhere. I always have some and give away many when I meet people.

What is your favorite spot in Ann Arbor? The Native American Trail in West Park.

What motivates you to work hard selling Groundcover News? Communicating and sharing is always important.

What is your favorite thing to do in Ann Arbor? Breathe from the sky to earth and back.

What was your first job? Standing on a chair and washing dishes for my mom.

What's the best way to start the day? Gratitude.

What's the most interesting thing that happened to you when selling Groundcover News? One time I traded a paper for a drink and conversation about being a citizen in the world.

What changes would you like to see in Washtenaw County? No one owns the earth. We belong to the earth. We have responsibilities to share. We need to negotiate reparations.

What is the most impressive thing you know how to do? Speak from the heart.

What do you wish you knew more about? Organizing for Freedom and Responsibility.

If you had a warning label, what would it say? Surprise ahead!

It's time we value time

"Some value the diamond watch, others value the time."
— Unknown

Does the man make the clothes, or do the clothes make the man? Value, true value, comes from within one's self. A diamond watch loses all value once it is "bust down" — a term for taking a plain Rolex or expensive wrist watch and flooding it with diamonds — while a regular Rolex traditionally holds or gains value over time.

Some people may enter your life only because of "the diamond watch" you possess. They don't value the hurdles you jumped to obtain it, the



JAY GORDON
Groundcover vendor No. 533

countless hours of sweat equity you poured into something to receive your "diamond watch." Overall most people won't even value that the watch tells time!

More importantly, it tells *your* time. Build relationships with

people that don't care that the watch is shiny, but are just happy that the watch works. Put value into the people that want to see you shine, not those who are impressed by your shine.

Personally, I want to be around people who want to be my plain face Rolex: classic, and high quality. We never get time back; it's gone faster than it comes. From the day you are born, you are always older longer than you are younger. Add value to your loved ones with time. Every second matters. Those relationships are the gold watches.

Tony's quotes



TONY S.
Groundcover vendor No. 9

1. Watch what you pray for ... it just might happen.
2. Take life on with the idea there must be a way; it's just something that hasn't yet been found or discovered.
3. Are you living to die or dying to live? Ask your heart.
4. Find your dream and you will find your gift in life.
5. You'll never forget your first love — it's a warm feeling in your heart.

Boober expansion and getting my license back

I used to think getting my license would be impossible. I owed \$15,000 in driver responsibility fees. 33% of the driving population lost their license because of this program. They terminated all driver responsibility fees for Michigan in 2018.

When you start tuning your vibration to a positive reality, your life starts to change with ease. There were many things I had to accomplish just to get here. The student lawyers at the University of Michigan helped out immensely with everything. We had to clear warrants and pay fines all over the country and state. If it was not for the law students, I don't think I could have done it. They



KEVIN SPANGLER
Groundcover vendor No. 307

helped me, but I also helped them by sharing wisdom for the future.

Boober Tours is expanding to another warehouse to store all of the trailers and have a spot for research and development to build new high quality pedicabs for the future. My vision

in 2036 is to have these high quality, light electric, human powered vehicles take the place of cars on the road. Currently, pedicabs take a lot of time and maintenance to stay on the roads.

We are going into fall and winter with a complete organization to work every sports game possible. We are starting much sooner this year working hockey games. We didn't know they started this early. It is great to be next to the University of Michigan to help people get where they need to go. It is also great to have such an amazing crew this year. They are constantly surprising me with going above and beyond.

Community town hall: Poverty, racism and trauma

United Way of Washtenaw County has a vision that, by 2030, your zip code will no longer predict your opportunities in life.

This ambitious goal of equity stands in stark opposition to the current disparities that exist east and west of Route 23. As it stands now, Washtenaw County remains one of the most economically segregated counties in the nation. The consequences can be seen in numerous opportunity index indicators: 93.8% in downtown Ann Arbor have obtained at least an Associates degree compared to 22.3% of those on the south side of Ypsilanti; median household income of Ann Arbor is about 50% greater than Ypsilanti; and there is up to a 19 year difference in life expectancy across the county.

These staggering disparities follow from the racist policies and norms that have excluded people of color and other marginalized groups. In other words, nothing is special about Washtenaw. The national trend of blatantly racist housing policies combined with today's cultural norms have led to vast differences in wealth accumulation and access to opportunity. These structural differences have become encoded into our culture, leading to harmful perpetuation — often unconsciously by those individuals too narrowly focused on their own well-being without care for their neighbor.

Not talking about it only serves to perpetuate it further. These oppressive systems do not decay. More insidiously, they tend to actually strengthen themselves over time if left unaddressed. And this is the importance of identifying the cause and working together toward a solution. The United Way of Washtenaw County is one of many organizations that strive toward justice and look out for their community members. Against this background of institutional racism and wide scale disparity in access, they have identified three main cultural forces that maintain the current inequities: poverty, racism and trauma. Interlocked, one cannot talk about one without mentioning the others, as they reinforce each other. To dismantle it, one must understand how the system works and then take bold action with efficient use of available resources for critical intervention.

With this in mind, on September 22 United Way hosted a panel discussion Community Town Hall: Poverty, Racism, and Trauma to explore the way that these three forces interact and shape the community we live in. The panel of experts relied on their past experience, both academic and personal, to highlight how these forces affect people on a daily basis and what we can do to change it for the better. Cryss Campbell



BEN GIRODIAS
Groundcover contributor

moderated the panel discussion. She serves as the current Program and Communication Manager for the county Racial Equity office; in addition, she has a long history as both an educator and advocate for advancing equity and accessibility.

Three experts acting as specialists in each of the three major oppressive forces composed the panel itself. Campbell directed questions relating to poverty toward Morghan Boydston, who serves as the Human Services Manager for the Office of Community and Economic Development for Washtenaw County. Her bold visions of what could be guide government action for creating long-term systematic changes, supporting those who identify with disenfranchised or oppressed populations. Serving as the specialist on racism, Dr. Matthew Countryman holds a joint appointment at the University of Michigan in the Department of History and American Culture. He puts his academic knowledge into practice, involved in many organizations with a focus on dismantling racism. Rounding out the panel, Derrick Jackson, previously a social worker and now a certified police officer serving as the Director of Community Engagement, where he focuses on synthesizing his social work and criminal justice knowledge to dually reimagine the role of police in the community and social work within law enforcement. In this panel, he served as the specialist in trauma.

Moderator Campbell began the discussion by asking about the state of poverty, racism and trauma here. Almost immediately, it became clear how much these forces overlap: it is

nearly impossible to talk about the impact of racism without talking about trauma or poverty, or poverty without talking about racism and trauma. The harsh dividing line made by Route 23 is no accident. As Countryman said, "The state of racism in Washtenaw County is the state of racism in the United States."

Boydston went further to emphasize that the disparate locations of wealth and poverty aggravate the difficulty in addressing issues hidden from the view of those in power, who are typically from a more privileged background. The COVID pandemic didn't aggravate these inequities but instead just pulled back the blinders, making structural problems that already existed obvious to all. Jackson pointed out how different communities can be despite being only six miles apart. The pinpoint locations of violence are so deep in the county, but this trauma affects the community as a whole in waves of trauma. Even if someone just witnesses trauma, they are affected by that trauma and so are their friends and family.

Campbell then shifted the discussion from the current conditions to how they are impacting and holding back our community. Boydston answered first, emphasizing that a problem faced by some is a problem faced for all.

"When we all aren't doing well, we all aren't doing well," Boydston said while elaborating on how trauma ripples across communities.

It could be a kid with a stressful homelife acting out in class or a crime rate increase from people forced to take what they don't have and what our society refuses to give them. Countryman discussed how the impact is not just the outcomes, but the experience itself. If you don't trust an institution, you can't benefit from it.

"It is the day to day cultural life, institutional life of our community, that's shaped by this landscape of racial inequality that we all have to live with," said Countryman.

Campbell explored this lens, probing further into how poverty, racism and trauma forces specifically impact communities of color.

Boydston interprets racism as denying access which limits opportunity. Being seen as less capable only because of looking different is in and of itself traumatizing. On the other hand, racism actively supports white communities, giving more opportunities based on privileged positions rather than those earned. This includes access to better education and passed down generational wealth, both of which, for many white families, is largely a product of redlining.

"We are perpetually in a cycle of creating opportunity for some while creating trauma for others," Boydston stated.

Jackson answered the question in a more personal way. Despite being a member of the sheriff's office, he still finds himself often followed by a security guard through a store. It does something to a person to live with that on a day-to-day basis. It does something to a person to see a huge gap between the haves and have nots. Jackson goes on to give an example of a young man he knew who gave a presentation at a school district in another part of the community, and this student commented about how this other school had a whole room full of new computers, unlike his school.

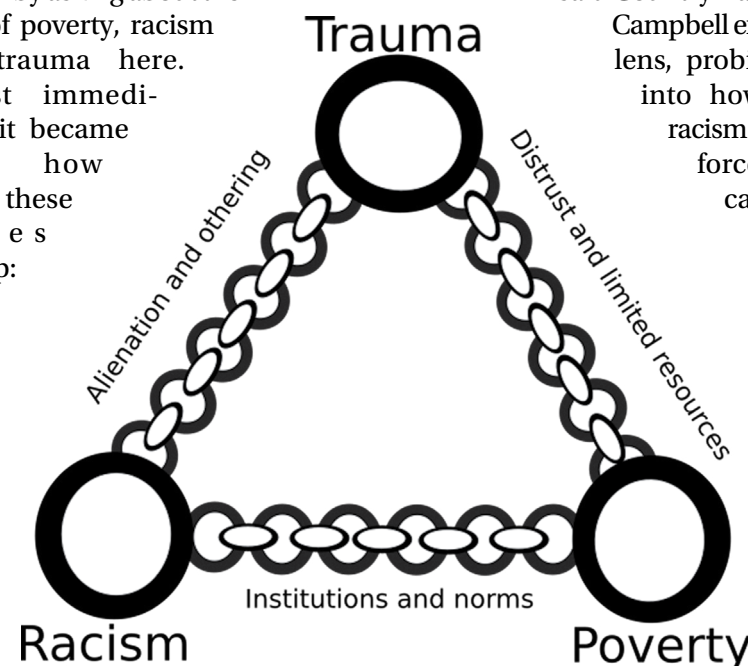
"He was sad about it. He was literally visibly shook by it," said Jackson about the young man's experience.

Countryman highlighted how these disparate impacts should not be surprising given the very explicitly and unapologetically racist efforts in the early twentieth century to create segregated communities — places where some people belong and others don't. The question that remains is, how do these things get reproduced despite these policies being illegal for the last fifty years?

He insists we critically examine institutional practices and norms that suggest something is wrong if it isn't predominantly white. For example, "What happens in downtown Ann Arbor if there are kids congregating at the bus stop because they have been to the Neutral Zone?... Why do we assume that's a problem?" These practices, though historically rooted, continue today through these learned cultural norms which can become difficult to question if they are accepted as just the way things are.

In the last part of the discussion, Campbell describes the necessary policy change to affect institutional change and cultural change to affect norms. She asks how the United Way of Washtenaw County affects these needed changes. The panel together agreed that solutions must be effective and bold.

Jackson said it's all about "moving the needle." Meaningful change comes from connecting individual resources to those



see TOWN HALL page 11 ♦

Un-paving the parking lot — what's the status on the Library Lot saga?

CAMILLA LIZUNDIA
Groundcover contributor

I joined the Council of the Commons early this year with little foresight and wide eyes. As a student affiliated with the University of Michigan for more than five years, I often find myself stuck in the bubble of academia, separate from local politics and current events. The "U" has that magnetic pull for me. Fortunately, as a budding urban planner, I can observe the wondrous magic of Tree Town through my class projects, my research and my spontaneous walks along the Huron.

Like many, I romanticize A2, diluting it to a dreamlike fantasy I keep close to my heart. Over time, I have also developed an understanding of the not so magical town-gown relationship, the prevalence of NIMBY, single-family housing culture and the like. While I initially experienced barriers to participating in Ann Arbor politics, volunteering my time toward making progress on the Library Lot has been a humble and insightful beginning.

I hail from the San Francisco Bay Area where my connection to place is

rooted in software engineers, earthquake drills and year-round flip flop weather. Fleeing to the Great Lakes State at age 18 felt rebellious albeit I had no idea what Michigan could offer me at the time. At present, I consider Ann Arbor to be my primary home. It's where I can be most vulnerable and authentic — whether it be Kerrytown, the Big House or the Old West Side.

The city-owned Library Lot parking lot along Fifth Avenue in downtown Ann Arbor is part of the City's envisioned urban central park and civic center commons known as the "Center of the City." For many, it's controversial, political and personal. While I have only dug into its history over the last year, some townies have been involved with the site for decades. However, I can offer my neighbors some insight into how the Council of the Commons has addressed activating the lot and moving forward with redevelopment.

For starters, the Council of the Commons (CoC) is an advisory body to the City Council that builds upon the work of the Center of the City Task Force. Our first meeting was in March

2021. As a unit, CoC members support the activation of the Library Lot, which means we recognize the potential for the site beyond surface-level parking. In the interim, before the lot is more significantly transformed, some examples of activation methods might be bringing in food trucks, yoga, flexible public seating, concerts, art or demonstrations. While the CoC is still researching these activation methods as well as engaging with block partners, stakeholders and the greater public, the opportunities for activation are endless and build upon past visioning exercises.

As a young person, I urge my peers to get educated on Ann Arbor politics, and better yet, get involved. You may be surprised by what's happening in your own backyard. Please keep a lookout for future CoC-facilitated public engagement and community events. In the meantime, meetings are live broadcasted on CTN Cable Channel 16, ATT Channel 99 and online at a2gov.org/watchCTN. To speak at public comment, call 206-337-9723 or 213-338-8477 or Toll Free 877-853-5247 or 888-788-0099. Enter Meeting ID: 933 1585 9113.

SHELTER ASSOCIATION OF WASHTENAW COUNTY WINTER PROGRAM INFORMATION

Winter shelter information: Winter daytime and overnight shelter accommodations are available throughout the winter shelter season from **November 1, 2021 - March 31, 2022** for any individual seeking emergency shelter during the cold, winter months.



- **Daytime shelter** - Monday - Thursday, 8am - 6pm at the Ypsilanti Freighthouse (100 Market Place, Ypsilanti, MI 48198)
- **Overnight shelter** - Every night beginning at 8:30pm at the Delonis Center (312 W Huron St, Ann Arbor, MI 48103) and multiple offsite locations - come to the Delonis Center first and transport is provided to offsite locations*

*Please note: Due to the pandemic, shelter beds may be limited and those that are able to stay with family members or friends are encouraged to do so.

How do I get to the shelter? Please contact **Housing Access of Washtenaw County (HAWC)** and obtain a referral to the Delonis Center at **734-961-1999**. If it is after 5pm, go directly to the Delonis Center and staff will ensure you're served.

What is provided at the shelter? - Individuals are provided a safe place to sleep each night and can access a wide variety of services including meals, case management, medical care, and most importantly help finding permanent housing.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact the Delonis Center/the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County (SAWC) at 734-662-2829.

Additional warming centers in Ann Arbor will be announced in December. For updates, visit washtenaw.org/2789/Winter-Warming-Centers.



What's Happening at the Ann Arbor District Library

Open 10am-8pm Daily

All AADL locations are open 10am to 8pm seven days a week! Collections are available for browsing, and study and meeting rooms are open to the public. Check us out at aadl.org

The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal Online
Your Library card gives you instant and unlimited access to *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*, plus *The New York Times Magazine* and *WSJ Magazine*.

aadl.org/nytimes
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aadl.org/printing

AADL FEATURE EVENT

The Living Oral History Project: Phase 8 Premiere

Sunday, Nov 14, 2pm on Zoom

AADL and the African American Cultural and Historical Museum of Washtenaw County (AACHM) present the latest phase of the Living Oral History Project. Phase 8 interviewees include Lois Allen-Richardson, Sharon Gillespie, Mary McDade, Patricia Horne McGee, Diana McKnight Morton, Alma Wheeler Smith, Laurita Thomas, Dolores Turner, James Turner, and Nancy Cornelia Wheeler.

aadl.org/loh8

Abolition in practice

MARLEY HORNEWER
Care Not Cops

On the evening of Wednesday, September 15, 60 students gathered in the University of Michigan Diag. They sat facing the Hatcher library, a large brick building decorated with Greek symbols, and listened closely to the stories of six speakers who sat in folding chairs on the library's steps. The event was called Abolition in Practice. It was a teach-in designed to educate students about the movement for prison abolition.

As the night progressed, each of the speakers explained the work that they do to gradually dismantle the carceral state and build new, more effective systems of safety and care. Of the six speakers, three were academic researchers who have published about the history of prisons, racial (in)justice and gender oppression, particularly in the state of Michigan. The other three speakers were community activists, including Pastor Anna who centers mutual aid projects and accountability practices (rather than punishment) in her work.

Of the six speakers, two were also formerly incarcerated. Today, one of these formerly incarcerated women is seeking a Ph.D. at the University of Michigan; the other is in the process of launching a catering business and food truck that serves meals inspired by her experience being incarcerated.

To engage students, the speakers hosted two interactive activities. The first encouraged us to question our word choice. "What do you think of when you hear the word *riot*? What do you think of when you hear the word *uprising*?" the researcher Julia asked. Students also reflected on the differences between the terms "criminal" and "incarcerated individual," they noted that the former puts the onus on the person (who committed a crime) while the latter puts the onus on the system. The term "incarcerated individual," they reported, also helps us separate a person from their behavior

or conditions — that is, distinguish between who a person is and what actions they've carried out or had inflicted upon them.

The second of the activities explored what "safety" means, looks, sounds and feels like. Dez, a speaker representing Liberate Don't Incarcerate, began the activity by reciting a guided meditation. "I want you to think about the place or space where you feel the safest," she said. "I want you to try to see yourself there. Think about the sounds, the smells...Think about how you move your body when you're in that space."

After the meditation, Dez asked students to reflect on how they might strengthen their communities and make the spaces that they occupy feel safe to more people. Students engaged in a communal generation of ideas and shared these reflections with the large group. A couple of responses:

"One thing that I talked about with my partner — my friend Tati — is how, as an artist (I'm a musician, I play saxophone), I can use art not just as a tool to advocate and speak on issues, but actually to create community. And that's something I had never thought about until this event, so I'm honestly shook right now."



Students at the Abolition in Practice teach-in at the Diag
Photo credit: Megan Wilson.

"I always try to have a heartfelt conversation with those people [who disagree with me]...and I don't try to belittle them in any way...I enjoy



LaWanda Hollister, Jamie Hein and Desirae Simmons were three of six speakers who participated on a panel designed to educate U-M students about the movement for prison abolition. Photo credit: Megan Wilson.

talking to them."

Dez closed the activity by centering love: "Any change I've seen, and all the people I've seen change, it's been through love. It's not gonna come through hate, because that is what has created what we are trying to tear down now."

At 8 p.m. the teach-in concluded with remarks from the two organizations that had put it together: the Carceral State Project and Care Not Cops.

The Carceral State Project is a university-funded initiative that documents criminalization, confinement and related systems through publications, presentations and even exhibits. University faculty and students work together and alongside community researchers to expose the atrocities of the carceral state.

Care Not Cops is an entirely student-run organization that advocates for defunding the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor campus police and redirecting resources (funds, time and energy) to building new systems of care and safety, namely those which are informed by social work practices, restorative justice and transformative justice. Care Not Cops also seeks to do the slow but important work of elimi-

nating carceral logics, including:

- Punitive mindsets: "I don't deserve to go to sleep tonight until I've pushed myself as hard as possible to study for this test."

- Harsh dichotomies: "There are two types of people in the world: good people and bad people."

- Tendencies to surveil: for example, tendencies to hover and monitor our neighbors' behavior because we haven't developed meaningful, trusting relationships with them, or perhaps because we don't even know their names.

To learn more about the Carceral State Project and Care Not Cops, visit @carceralinquiry and @cncumich on Instagram or Care Not Cops' website https://bit.ly/cnc_umich, which includes a recently published Disorientation Guide and resources for future learning and growing. And keep your eyes peeled for Care Not Cops' traveling library books in Ann Arbor's wonderful free libraries!

Together, we — students, community members, friends and citizens — have the power to incite change on a societal level and, just as important, to take the small but vital steps that move our own communities closer towards a liberatory horizon.

We're Open!

Thrift sale Friday & Saturday 9 am - 1 pm
Drop off donations Saturday 9 am - 12 pm



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Who needs to learn how to love?

LUIZA CAETANO
Groundcover contributor

What: "One Love! One Heart!"

The One Love Symposium is a desperate attempt to do something. It was created by a mother who — in her own words — couldn't stand to be another white lady crying in front of the TV after George Floyd's murder. It was born out of the pandemic's isolation and anguish, combined with her conviction that "people," starting with herself, "have the power and the obligation to work hard for what they believe in."

Anna Gersh has a Ph.D. in Research and Evaluation, plus almost two decades of experience as a teacher. She has served as a member of the Mayor's Task Force to create a police oversight commission. She has led a number of public art projects and is a board member at the newspaper you are reading right now. Her latest initiative? "A contest, a conference, an integrated arts event and a vehicle for social transformation."

Informed by Gersh's work in the classroom and on the Washtenaw County Sheriff's 21st Century Policing Compliance Commission, the One Love Symposium aims to create a training certification for the kind of professional that anyone could need

anytime, but whose decisions have the power to change our lives. We are talking mainly about police officers, doctors and teachers. More specifically, about the very moment when they assess a situation in order to make a decision — whether of failing a student, choosing a patient's treatment, or, well, pulling a gun on a (Black) civilian. While these carry very different weights, what they have in common is the fact that each needs to be informed by "universal human values." In other words, they need to rely on some kind of basic "human love" to be successful, or at least to prevent the kind of grotesque action that led to George Floyd's murder.

How: "Let's get together and feel alright"

So how to define these values which history has shown to be far from self-evident in practice? This is where the symposium idea comes in, in three stages:

1) Together with six high school kids working (and being paid for it) as data collectors, Gersh co-designed a survey to ask the recipients of human services — which is to say, anyone — what those professionals need to know in order to be good at their jobs.

2) On September 28, at the AADL, a panel of three representatives of each

human services area discussed the results of stage one. Dr. Michael Johnson (chair of Public Policy at the University of Massachusetts) and Gersh facilitated the conversation between Dr. Wendy Burke, the Department Head of Teacher Education at Eastern Michigan University, Rebecca Guzman, a teacher of social work and public health who is a founding member of the Michigan Community Health Worker Alliance, and Brandon Tucker, Associate Vice President of Workforce Development at Washtenaw Community College. Guided by Johnson's questions, the discussion revolved around the challenges and goals of human services, with a focus on each professional's identities in relation to their work, dismantling implicit bias, creating replicable models for best practices and dealing with the unpredictability inherent to human behavior.

3) The final step is to get other people interested in working to build a body of professional information. Gersh hopes to get the state of Michigan to host a conference. Within five years Gersh hopes to develop the collected community wisdom into a certification that is inexpensive and available to everyone.

Who: "There ain't no room for the

hopeless sinner"

What do a teacher, a doctor and a police officer need to know to be good at serving me, but also you, and one another? Something that became clear in the September panel was that the question is difficult to answer not only because of the complexity of the humans served but also of the humans serving.

To say that these professionals are often overstressed and underpaid is almost trite. Yet, understanding what they need to know to do their jobs may still shed light on the more crucial question of what they need to have. What material conditions need to be in place so that the knowledge is not futile? Not just how to recognize and deal with their biases, but before that, how to find the time and motivation to do so. The fact that little over a dozen people attended the September event online, and less than a handful in person is telling not so much of the lack of importance, but rather of the lack of space for these questions in the daily lives of the members of this community. How, then, can this certification be a tool to empower them, and not just another burden?

But even if the underpaid

see ONE LOVE page 11 ➔

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Peer Support Specialist, Washtenaw County Community Mental Health

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Where will they go? Over 100 people displaced as Kalamazoo Public Safety sweeps Tent City

RUBY BARRON
Groundcover contributor

The Ampersee Encampment was located in a former industrial site near the Growlers Stadium in Kalamazoo. It was home to almost 150 residents after nearly tripling in size this June. The city planned to evict the camp on September 29, citing concerns about health and safety of the residents. However residents of the camp had greater access to support and services due to their close proximity to each other, similar to the Ann Arbor community during the days of Camp Take Notice (2012-2014). Congregating also meant that evicting the camp was much more visible than the perpetual criminalization and harassment that unhoused people on their own face.

Early in the morning on Wednesday September 29, residents of the Ampersee Encampment in Kalamazoo and their supporters fortified their home hoping to prevent a planned eviction.

Dozens of protestors held signs outside the camp and chanted slogans like ‘Where will they go?’ The city did not have an answer.

Tensions grew throughout the day as police circled the camp ahead of the 5 p.m. eviction. The city also removed the porta potties from the camp and police officers were alleged to taunt residents of the camp by gesturing to their weapons and making statements like “You’ll be out of here at five.” At one point a fire broke out which residents extinguished themselves before emergency services arrived, demonstrating their resilience during the crisis.

The tension came to an unexpected, temporary conclusion as the city announced a two week delay in the eviction. Residents and activists celebrated the partial victory with food, brought by local food justice organization Food Not Bombs, in the shade of a structure built by a resourceful resident.

However, the victory proved short-lived. Kalamazoo Public Safety forcefully evicted the Ampersee Camp one week early on Wednesday October 6 in contradiction of the announced date, before many residents could relocate. Residents were given just five minutes to gather their belongings and vacate the camp. Many received citations for trespassing. One former resident recounted escaping the raid-like sweep by boating down the river abutting the camp. The city then destroyed what remained of the rushed evacuees’ shelters and possessions with a bulldozer, nearly running over a sleeping resident according to one account.

That night, many residents set up camp in an adjacent field which was kept under the constant surveillance of a KPS cruiser’s spotlight. The next day, on October 7, the new camp was evicted and 10 residents and activists were arrested. While the city’s stated motivation for the eviction was concerns for the safety of the inhabitants,

it is unclear how deep that concern runs: the only refuge available to the unhoused was a brownfield site with significant heavy metal contaminations.

With the loss of their community — an imperfect community, but somewhere that provided a degree of stability and security — the residents of the Ampersee Encampment are left with the question: where will we go?

A sign displayed in the camp reminded residents to remain optimistic: “To ALL the residents here at Ampersee Encampment (Tent City) when we stand UNITED we are STRONGER. We may still fail but we will never fail ourselves. We DESERVE a voice. But if it falls on deaf ears we still won’t have failed because we believe in ourselves and each other. We have all grown in our time here. We are stronger in experience and knowledge. The Bureaucrats CAN’T take that away. STAND STRONG and BE HEARD!”

Fruit cellars, root cellars, water and wood piles

KEN PARKS
Groundcover vendor No. 490

If you have shelter of any kind, even a seat with room for a cooking pot, the list in the title nearly completes everything else you need. Wood shavings, sawdust and chips make an excellent composting toilet and make it possible to extend the composting process beyond what wastewater treatment plants offer. This is an important skill to perfect. The title above was to inspire me to link some of the best of European peasant heritage with the reality of natural law as we evolve to be a species worthy of the name we have given ourselves.

What stands in the way of this simple life and ecovillage culture? If you look at my past articles you will have some good clues. Everything hinges on land sovereignty and our personal power as expressions of natural law. A natural breath promotes a natural mind and

the experience of being at home in your body. Music grows from this experience as naturally as the smile of mother and child.

At Standing Rock the importance of indigenous centered practices took root. We start by respecting the original people and their role as caretakers of the earth under our feet. African heritage people have a close relationship to their indigenous roots that promotes a sense of community that many of European heritage admire and fear. Europe has a long history of colonization and the roots go back to the invention of private property and a monopoly of violence that establishes terms and conditions.

When we realize the earth is sovereign over us, that the Doctrine of Discovery and Conquest is a serious historical error, we can consider the work of reparations for the genocides committed. Sharing the land so that the earth and all her children benefit

then becomes the only lifestyle that makes sense. The Council of the Commons that came from the referendum in Ann Arbor to support a park on the Community Commons is a step towards the correct view that will cure many of our ills.

In my humble opinion, anyone who truly discovers their own heart is in the struggle to use love to combat opportunism, whether it is individual or collective. Many are those who feel empowered to be the decider against the best interests of the whole because the chain of command demands compliance. If we recognize and develop our own power, we will share it wisely and not give it away upon demand — unless it is an act of love.

Ozzie the Cat, who sat on my shoulder (pictured right), was loved by many on Third Street. He was badly wounded two days after the photo and passed into the all-good expanse of primordial purity — which is always

available and everyone sees anew with their last breath and return to Mother Earth. May we find our heart space and the timeless fountain of life that is our true home. I hope to see you on Veteran’s Day at Veterans Park in Ann Arbor!



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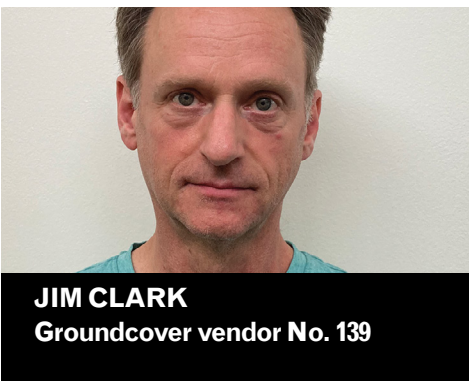
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The Love Stand — a bridge between homelessness and sustainability

Sustainability has three sides: ecology (protecting the environment), economics (providing the greatest amount of resources to humans with the least amount of waste and impact), and equity. Equity refers to social justice issues; a society cannot be sustainable if any of its members are marginalized.

Sustainability also includes food. Local, organic food that is ecologically correct, produced with efficiency and low carbon footprints and available to all has long been considered an important part of sustainability. A source of such food is found at the “Love Stand,” sitting in the front yard of a small house in Depot Town at 315 N. River St in Ypsilanti, Mich. The Love Stand, which consists of two canopied picnic tables, is attended and stocked by Tyler Weston. The food is available 24/7 — for free — to anyone who wants or needs it.

Tyler started The Love Stand because “God told me go make a food pantry. I didn’t want to but I did it anyway.” In the months just before the pandemic, he did just that. “My friends and I used things we found around the house to build the



stand and the signs,” he recalls. The signs say “Give Freely, Take Cheerfully” and “Comida Gratis.” There is also a sign on a pallet listing donors from the area.

Do people ever try to take it all? “Sometimes, but I don’t try to stop them,” Tyler said. Do you ever discourage people who seem to be of greater means? “No, everyone has their reasons. They might be taking it to a less fortunate neighbor.” Tyler emphasized, “I just want everyone to remember that as humans we are all givers and takers. No one is better because they give, no one is less than because they take.”

At first, Tyler made an outlay of

packaged food with his own money. When asked about his current sources of food, Tyler said, “Magic. Initially I got the supplies, but soon members of the community started providing it.” Some of the sources of that magic are the Girl Scouts, college students, Food Gatherers and good Samaritans in the neighborhood. In addition to the packaged food, local gardeners and the Ypsilanti Food Co-op also donate fresh produce.

The Co-op, a member-owned community grocery store, is committed to providing local organic food to its members and the general public. Organic food is healthier for the environment and the people eating it because conventional farming uses pesticides and other harmful chemicals. Local sources reduce “food miles,” the distance food has to travel to the consumer, and also keeps the money circulating in our community. This helps satisfy the economic side of the sustainability triangle.

Another way the Co-op helps the equity side is the “Double Up Food Bucks” program for people with a bridge card. Corinne Sikorski, Co-op General

Manager, explains, “Double Up Food Bucks is a program of the Fair Food Network in Ann Arbor. It matches EBT/ Bridge Card or food stamp dollars spent on fruits and vegetables, unlimited. This means more healthy food for families, more business for local farmers and a boost for local economies.”

The Love Stand and the Ypsi Food Co-op bridge the gap between economics and equity by way of ecologically sound food. Corinne says, “We want to make sure healthy, local food is available to everyone.”



Why apportionment matters in Washtenaw County

ANDRE VASHER
Groundcover contributor

Have you ever wondered:

- Who exactly assesses my property values?
- What local public health programs are available to me?
- Who determines how money gets spent within our county and on what services?

Our county government fills the gap between local jurisdictions and the state government. Washtenaw County is responsible for everything from snow plowing county roads to community mental health programs. Their website lists 31 separate departments and each of those has a budget.

County government exists to extend some powers of state government throughout the state. For example, the state requires county prosecutors to enforce the state criminal laws. Registers of deeds receive and maintain proper land records and other property-related documents. Clerks administer elections for the state and exercise other duties that are of particular interest to the state.

Counties carry out programs that benefit primarily the local population.

County parks and recreation programs, county water and sewer systems and community crisis centers are supported by counties because of want and need.

Commissioner Katie Scott, who represents District 9 within Washtenaw County, laments the fact many residents don’t fully understand the role and importance of county government. She relates, “When I was campaigning, knocking on doors, many residents I spoke with didn’t understand the ‘hidden side’ of government the county provides.”

According to its 2020 Financial Report, Washtenaw County took in over \$300 million in revenue that fiscal year. With around 1400 employees and its budget size, Washtenaw County is a large and intricate organization in and of itself.

A Board of Commissioners for Washtenaw County helps provide equitable distribution of resources and provides governance and leadership to the 31 departments. For a list of these departments go online to washtenav.org. Each commissioner strives to meet the needs of their constituents, while considering the larger needs of the entire county.

Performed in conjunction with the recent census, Washtenaw County is currently considering the boundaries of the nine county commissioners as well as the need to expand the number of commissioners. An online meeting held on September 25, featured a number of citizens in eastern Washtenaw County speaking to their concerns on the issues and addressing some of the differences noted within the data points of the County’s Opportunity Index.

As highlighted in a recent Ann Arbor Observer article, the Washtenaw County Opportunity Index measures differences in such attributes as education and life expectancy in county residents. The index shows residents in certain areas of the county lag behind their peers in the City of Ann Arbor.

Some county residents feel increased county board representation can help reduce the gaps in the Opportunity Index, leading to greater equity within Washtenaw’s borders.

An open hearing on the Washtenaw County Apportionment was held online two days later on September 27, with a diverse group of citizens offering concerns around representation as well as the pros and cons of adding additional county commissioners.

These recommendations will be considered by an independent team pulled together to make apportionment recommendations to the county board and executives by this November 15.

For further information on the role of Washtenaw County government and the issues around the current apportionment process, visit these online resources:

Members of Washtenaw County Apportionment Commission	www.washtenaw.org/1771/Apportionment-Commission
Washtenaw County Opportunity Index	www.opportunitywashtenaw.org/
Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition	www.werocmi.org
Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners Rules and Regulations	www.washtenaw.org/DocumentCenter/View/1925/6/21-003-BOC-Rules-and-Regulations
Notice of Public Hearings on the Washtenaw County Apportionment Commission	www.washtenaw.org/DocumentCenter/View/2215/3/Notice-of-Public-Hearings?bidId=

The tragedy of Aura Rosser: Police brutality, domestic violence and community policing reform

“We need to commemorate her artistry, her poetry, her motherhood, her being in this world. She had friends and family, she had spirit. She loved. She stood up for herself. She did not need to die. We demand justice for Aura Rosser.”

— Radical Washtenaw Magazine, 2015

The story of Aura Rosser has the making of a Shakespearean tragedy. Many people are familiar with the tragedies of Hamlet, Othello, Macbeth, and of course, the tragedy of Romeo and Juliet. In our time, the tragedy of Aura Rosser reflects who we are as a society in which the dreams of our founding fathers, our ancestors, and our civil rights leaders are seemingly elusive and far-fetched.

Justice delayed is justice denied! Writer and poet Langston Hughes asked some pointed questions in his poem, “Harlem.” He wrote, “What happens to a dream deferred? Does it dry up like a raisin in the sun? Does it fester like sore — and then run? Does it stink like rotten meat? Or crust and sugar over — like a syrupy sweet? Maybe it just sags like a heavy load. Or does it explode?”

University of Michigan students and other members of the Ann Arbor area community marched and protested on January 31, 2015, one day after the Washtenaw County Prosecutor said that the police killing of Aura Rosser was lawful self-defense and that his office would not pursue a murder charge. The disappointment and uproar could be heard beyond Ann Arbor. It became headline news in national newspapers and social media. Protesting students and city residents carried large posters that said “BLACK LIVES MATTER,” “THIS IS A MOVEMENT, LET’S NOT MAKE IT A MOMENT,” and “WE WILL NEVER FORGET AURA ROSSER.” The Protesters also carried large-sized photos of Aura Rosser as they marched.

Aura Rosser’s journey started in Lansing, Michigan, where she was born 40 years before her death. Her family moved to Detroit, and she attended Cass Tech High School and graduated in 1992. Rosser left Detroit for a new beginning in Ann Arbor. Her sister, Shae Wood, said that Aura was “very artistic and deeply into painting with oils and acrylics. She is a culture-type of gal. She was a really sweet girl. Wild. Out-going. Articulate.”

The pain of her death and the refusal of the County Prosecutor to pursue a murder charge against the police officer involved in the fatal killing took a huge toll on Aura Rosser’s family. Shae Wood



offered the following statement on January 31, 2015: “I hope I can get strong enough for her...because I know her person. She would have never attacked Officer Ried. She would have never made him feel that he would have to take her life to defuse the situation. That is just outlandish. It’s totally outlandish.”

On the sixth anniversary of Aura Rosser’s killing, her mom, Ms. Deborah Carter spoke. Surrounded by family members and Reverend Robert Blake on November 9, 2020, Carter said that her daughter was “an artist and a lovable person.” Carter continued, “Unfortunately, the police chose to shoot her in the heart rather than the foot because she was in a rage, they say, but there was no need to murder my baby.”

According to family members, Aura Rosser did not only relocate to Ann Arbor to seek job and income opportunities but also to live near a community mental health facility. She knew she had mental health challenges, and wanted to get help. She was also homeless when she arrived in the Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti area. Her search for housing security led to her connection with Victor Stevens who claimed that they were dating for nine months before the fatal shooting.

Police Brutality, Mental Health and Domestic Violence:

The report released by Michigan State Police showed that before the fatal incident of November 9, 2014, the Ann Arbor police had been called to two domestic violence or domestic disturbance incidents at the house shared by Aura Rosser and Victor Stevens. Police Officer David Ried responded to one of them, and it was resolved peacefully. However, the subsequent response became tragic.

Officer Mark Raab who was part of the police response team at 11:45 p.m. (Sunday, November 9, 2014) testified that it took five to 10 seconds for him to fire a taser, and his team member, officer Ried, to fire his loaded gun. Officer Raab also said that they were five to 10 feet

away from Aura Rosser who approached them with a knife.

The officers’ varied actions left more questions than answers. Why did one police officer choose to fire a taser and the other police officer choose to fire a loaded gun when confronted with the same risk? The County Prosecutor said it should not matter in the case of lawful self defense. The protesters disagree. The Michigan ACLU disagreed with some conclusions after reading the Michigan State Police report. Radical Washtenaw Magazine provided a retort to County Prosecutor, Brian Mackie’s report.

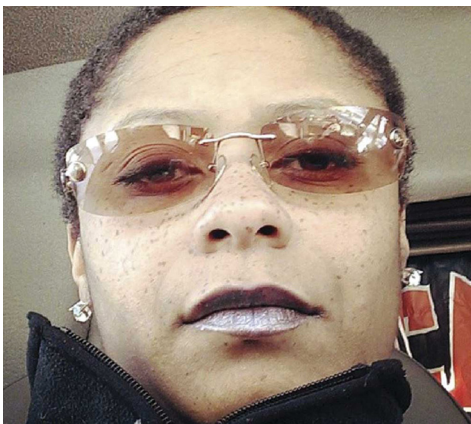
In 2015, local activist and historian, Austin McCoy, said that “the shooting of Aura Rosser confirms how Ann Arbor looks like the rest of America. Appraisals of Rosser’s character in the local media and the prosecutor’s report reads more like the characterization of Ezell Ford and Michael Brown...The crucial difference is that Rosser is Black and female.”

Writer and social activist Kimberle Crenshaw coined the phrase intersectionality for the racism of being Black and female. According to McCoy, Aura Rosser’s tragedy was documented in a book by attorney Andrea Ritchie, “Invisible No More: Police Violence Against Black Women and Women of Color.” Her name is also in an article written by historian Robin D. G. Kelley with the title, “Why We Won’t Wait.”

Sadly, the local media focused on her mental illness, criminal record and the toxicology report which was released as part of the autopsy report. Even the *Huffington Post* of February 2015 carried a headline that read, “No Charges for Officer Who Killed Mentally Ill Woman Who Confronted Police with a Knife.” Since 2014, America has witnessed multiple episodes of police killings and brutality, including the deaths of Breonna Taylor and George Floyd. Let’s remember Kimberle Crenshaw’s hashtag #SAYHER NAME! It included Aura Rain Rosser, Sandra Bland, Breonna Taylor and other Black female victims of police violence and brutality.

Community Policing Reform

After a record number of African Americans were brutalized and/or killed by the police from 2014 to 2020, Congress took up “The George Floyd Justice in Policing Act.” The Act was first proposed by the House of Representatives. It died in the Senate. In April 2021 Officer Derek Chauvin was convicted of murder for the traumatic death of George Floyd. President Joe Biden said that the guilty verdict was a first step and urged the Senators to pass the “George



Aura Rosser was killed by the police on November 9, 2015. There have yet to be charges for the officer who killed her.

Floyd Justice in Policing Act” so he could sign it into law. On February 18, 2021, the House passed the “Federal Police Camera and Accountability Act.” On September 27, 2021, the *Los Angeles Times* carried a headline that said, “Congress failed with the George Floyd Act, but there’s still hope.”

At the local level, a few changes have taken place since Aura Rosser’s tragic death. The former Police Chief, John Seto, announced that all Ann Arbor police officers would receive diversity training and autism awareness training. The Mayor announced in 2014 that the city would spend about \$174,000 to purchase new wearable police cameras and update existing cameras inside police vehicles.

Mental illness is at the center of Ann Arbor’s community policing reforms. The city hired more psychologists and social workers to become members of the Crisis Response Team. Many community residents want Ann Arbor to reallocate more police budget towards mental health. The County passed a community mental health millage to fund responding to public safety issues. Washtenaw County Sheriff Jerry Clayton is one of our national leaders in mental health and community policing reform. A significant number of Ann Arbor area residents and thousands of University of Michigan students still demand justice for Aura Rosser!!!

The police shooting of Aura Rosser did not happen on Mayor Christopher Taylor’s watch. He assumed office on the 10th of November 2014, one day after the tragedy. However, he has received harsh criticism for the way he and the Ann Arbor City Council accepted the County Prosecutor’s decision not to charge the shooting police officer with murder. Many protesters wanted the mayor and the city council

see **AURA** next page ➡

Sudoku

★★☆☆☆☆ 4puz.com

	9	5				6	2	
7								8
			8	4		2	5	
3	8		2		4		9	5
					5			
5	2		6		9		4	3
			7	9		8	3	
4								2
	5	3				4	7	

Fill in the squares so that each row, column, and 3-by-3 box contain the numbers 1 through 9.

➡ **AURA** from previous page

to support the movement to bring an independent prosecutor in order to seek justice for Aura Rain Rosser. Since the fatal shooting, some community members and students have grudgingly given the Mayor a few credits for stepping up and making consequential changes, noted in the previous paragraphs. From the beginning of the police shooting and the large crowd protests, the former city councilman Chuck Warpahoski and former long-term chairman of the Ann Arbor Human Right Commission, Dwight Wilson, led with distinction. They helped to organize new community policing training workshops and laid

the groundwork for the Independent Police Oversight Review Commission. Such gestures may not be enough. However, there is a saying that “half bread is better than none.” From the perspective of the protesters, a meaningful change will come when the new Washtenaw County Prosecutor, Eli Savit, reopens the investigation into Aura Rosser’s fatal shooting. There is a loud sentiment out there that Rosser’s family is facing delayed justice and that the community needs to experience the sweetness of “a swift justice.” What do they want? They want equal administration of the law and justice. They want respectful community policing. They want better race relations and improved diversity and equity engagement.

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NOVEMBER 2021 EVENTS AT BETHLEHEM

In person events are just starting to resume at BUCC. We ask that you visit the church website at: bethlehem-ucc.org for the most up-to-date calendar and event information.

NOVEMBER 7 - TOTENFEST

Sunday Worship Time

10:00 am In-person and via Live Stream and Radio Broadcast

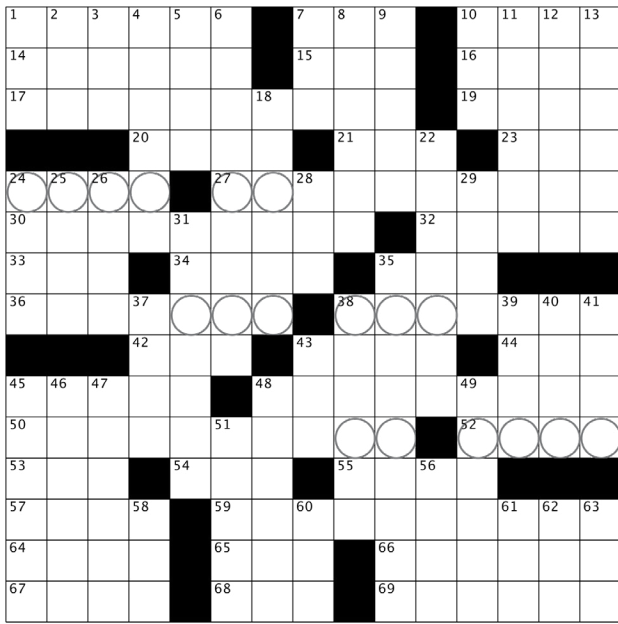
Dutch Treat Peter A. Collins

ACROSS

- Quirk
- Governor Hutchinson of Arkansas
- Rae of "The Lovebirds"
- Make a father?
- Diamond head?
- Some U.S.N. personnel
- Airs
- New Haven team
- Prepare water for pasta
- 33% of a kids' game
- Wrath
- "Hulk" player Eric
- Signs on some doors
- Suddenly
- Nobody ___ business
- Bird in "Arabian Nights"
- Biblical prophet
- "___ to Pieces" (Del Shannon hit)
- Nuclear restraint pact
- Where hammers and nails might be studied?
- Tin Tin lead-in
- Persian Gulf nation
- Sedona maker
- Awaiting a pitch
- Suffered in the heat
- Fruity treat
- Granny
- Sprinted
- Timetable abbr.
- "Let's just leave ___ that"
- October's birthstone
- Some water toys
- Not a lick
- "Monsters, ___" (2001 movie)
- Magical drink
- Certain deer
- "Golly!"
- Depends (on)

DOWN

- Pocket watch accessory
- Hockey Hall of Famer Bobby
- Words that can end an engagement?



- Peter A. Collins

 - "Old MacDonald" noise
 - Italian resort
 - 1992 comedy with the tag line "Where the Stone Age meets the Rock Age"
 - They pop up on occasion
 - Parlor piece
 - Ancient teller of tales
 - Word with maker or breaker
 - Bowler's headaches
 - Evening party
 - Rate
 - Support-group offshoot
 - Classy
 - Simpson boy
 - Skin cream ingredient
 - World Series lead-in: Abbr.
 - Banquet hosts, for short
 - More than enough
 - "Bewitched" baby
 - All worked up
- Gillette brand name
 - Small and shapeless
 - Gumbo ingredient
 - Carriage
 - When tripled, "and so on"
 - Bird in the Tripadvisor logo
 - Driveway-street connectors
 - It's home may be on the range
 - With 11-Down, sundae alternatives (and a hint to the circled letters)
 - Peaceful
 - Involve
 - "Sex and the City" role
 - Up to the task
 - Relay component
 - Flexible blackjack card
 - 61 in old Rome
 - Prevarication
 - Some H.S. students

➡ **ONE LOVE** from page 7

professionals at the frontline of human services had the material support they needed, the focus on the point of service still risks obscuring the fact that decision-making power is not exclusively in their hands. Hidden behind them is an intrinsic bureaucratic structure, where management and owners (often overpaid, as with NYC non-profit housing boss Jack Brown), with little to no contact with the humans served, control service for the values of advertising, efficiency

➡ **TOWN HALL** from page 4

in the community that can make the biggest impact with those resources. Boydston emphasized the importance of being bold, a willingness to try new things and be explicit about the problems at hand. Countryman disregarded our tendency to evaluate people on intentions rather than results. Are we actually changing things or just trying our best? Unfortunately, feel-good moments don't always lead to meaningful change. The standard shouldn't be a

and, ultimately, profit. What's the place of these sinners in the One Love train?

At the danger of disappointing those who we wish to inspire, it might be that we need more caution in our idealist tinkering for the utopia to stand on the firm material ground. But if starting to think is already a form of action, there's hope that this one-womanned project will find other material-ly-able conductors to put it on the right track to revolution.

comparison to other communities either, but instead, what meaningful change are we delivering?

So dear reader, what meaningful change are you delivering? Resources can be found to get more involved can be found here <https://www.uvwashenaw.org/communitytownhall2021resources> A recording of this discussion can be found at (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ebikSm3V-6E>)

Pumpkin stew

JUSTEN WHITE

Groundcover vendor No. 543

Ingredients:

One pumpkin about 10" in diameter cleaned out (make sure to leave bottom at least 1" thick for stability)
2 cups of pumpkin flesh
2 cups green beans
4 medium potatoes, diced
8 pearl onions, diced
2 pounds cubed stew meat
16 oz whole tomatoes with juice
¼ cup flour
1 ½ tsp salt
¼ tsp pepper
¼ tsp cloves
1 cup beef broth

Directions:

Combine flour and seasonings. Coat meat with flour mixture and brown in 3 Tbsp oil. Add tomatoes and broth, bring to a boil. Cover and reduce heat to simmer for 1 ½ hours. Add veggies, cover and simmer for another 1 ½ hours. Pour stew in pumpkin. Set on a cookie sheet and bake at 350 for 45 min.



Hot dogs, coffee and tea

DENISE SHEARER

Groundcover vendor No. 485

I love hot dogs, coffee and tea.

Sometimes I like having hot dogs while drinking coffee or tea.

Hot dogs, coffee and tea are good any time of the day,

Hot dogs, coffee, and tea are good any time of the year,

Hot dogs, coffee, and tea are good for any kind of get together,

I have good memories thinking about hot dogs at all the BBQs I've been to.

I like to get hot dogs to eat from the gas stations or

take out/dine-in restaurants or making them at home.

I like to go to the coffee shops all year round.

I was 19 years old when I first tried a cup of coffee.

And I liked it black with no sugar or cream then too!

I like unsweetened, iced black tea.

I like iced, black coffee too — no sweetener or cream.

I prefer a little bit of ice in my iced coffee or tea.

Hot dogs, coffee and tea are good for relaxing alone too,

Hot dogs, coffee and tea are good for any occasion and a perfect meal at any time.

I like ketchup, relish and onion on my hot dogs.

I love toasted hot dog rolls.

I love hot dogs, coffee and tea.

ON THE COVER

The International Network of Street Papers has partnered with Nia Tero, a non-profit which works with Indigenous communities to promote their work and culture, and social art and design lab Amplifier. 'Thriving Peoples, Thriving Places' is a global exhibit that includes six original portraits commissioned from Washington DC-based artist Tracie Ching. The nine Indigenous women at the center of this project provide robust examples of real-life action to engage in to strive for the health and future of the planet, embodying Indigenous experience and carrying generational knowledge and inherited responsibilities that come with that. These celebrated leaders on our November cover include:

Deb Abrahamson (Spokane Tribe), an environmental activist and water protector who played a large part in the push to clean up the legacy of uranium mining on the Spokane Indian Reservation; Abrahamson died of cancer in January of 2020, attributing her illness to the very radioactive toxins that she had dedicated her life to saving others from. **Twa-le Abrahamson-Swan** (Spokane Tribe), an environmental activist and executive director, the River Warrior Society, a collective across the Coeur d'Alene, Colville, Kalispel, Nez Perce, and Spokane tribes; Abrahamson-Swan refocused the collective's energies on providing pandemic and wildfire relief; daughter of Deb Abrahamson. **Marjorie Kunaq Tahbone** (Inupiaq, Kiowa), an environmental activist whose artistic work focuses on revitalizing ancient skills such as hide tanning, making traditional regalia, and tool making.

Follow @groundcovernews on Instagram and Facebook to read about the other six activists online throughout the month of November.

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

1	9	5	3	8	7	6	2	4
7	4	2	5	6	1	9	3	8
6	3	8	4	9	2	5	1	7
3	8	6	2	1	4	7	9	5
9	7	4	8	5	3	2	6	1
5	2	1	6	7	9	8	4	3
2	1	7	9	4	8	3	5	6
4	6	9	7	3	5	1	8	2
8	5	3	1	2	6	4	7	9

1	F	O	I	B	L	E	6	A	S	A	10	I	S	S	13
14	O	R	D	A	I	N	15	D	E	E	16	C	P	O	S
17	B	R	O	A	D	C	18	A	S	T	S	19	E	L	I
20	B	O	I	L	21	T	O	E	22	I	R	E			
24	B	A	N	A	25	N	A	M	E	P	L	A	T	E	S
30	A	L	L	A	T	O	N	C	E	32	E	L	S	E	S
33	R	O	C	34	A	M	O	S	35	I	G	O			
36	T	E	S	T	B	A	N	37	A	N	A	T	O	M	Y
42	R	I	N	43	O	M	A	N	44	K	I	A			
45	A	T	B	A	T	46	S	W	E	L	T	E	R	E	D
50	P	E	A	C	H	M	E	L	51	B	A	N	A	N	A
53	R	A	N	54	A	R	R	55	I	T	A	T			
57	O	P	A	L	58	B	E	A	C	H	B	A	L	L	S
64	N	O	N	E	65	I	N	C	66	E	L	I	X	I	R
67	S	T	A	G	68	G	E	E	69	R	E	L	I	E	S

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to come and meet Christ Jesus who loves each one of us and who is really present here to save us.

"If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and am here; I did not come on my own, but he sent me."

+ Christ Jesus (John 8:42)

Mass Times:

Saturday Vigil 5 pm & 7 pm (español);

Sunday 8:30am, 10:30am, 12:30pm.

Daily Mon-Fri at 9:15am; Thurs Mass is followed by a Holy Hour.

Spanish: stfrancisa2.com/misa

English: stfrancisa2.com/mass